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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the following for the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 13.--

While an ATM constructed with I/O modules as shown in FIG. 1, and employed in the manner described above, is able to circumvent problems that originate in the fiber or the LIU, it nevertheless hads a significant weakness. Use of the APS switch within the I/O module requires one to connect the service fiber and the protection fiber to the same I/O module. Consequently, a general failure in the I/O module brings down both the service path and the protection path. On first blush, it would appear that placing the APS switch off the I/O module, in a separate circuit board that is interfaced between the I/O module and the ATM switch, would solve the problem because it would allow the service fibers and the protection fibers to be connected to different I/O modules. Alas, current design ATMs do not have the physical room for inserting the circuit board that would serve as the switches for selecting I/O modules. Moreover, such a solution is quite expensive.--;

Please substitute the following for the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 9.--

As shown in FIG. 3, in block 301 CPU 150 creates a control cell that is addressed to CPU 156. Control then passes to block 302, where the created cell is forwarded to ATM switch 100 via the ATM bus. Switch 100 forwards the created cell to CPU 156, again via the ATM bus, in block 303. Finally, in block 304 CPU 156 makes decisions about what actions, if any, should be applied to the buffers of framers 111 and 115, and executes those decisions. If the decision is to close an open buffer in framer 111 and correspondingly to open a closed buffer in framer 115 then, one of two sequences of actions can be taken: either open the buffer of framer 115 first, or close the buffer of framer 111 first. Regardless of the sequence chosen (and the choice may be made based on the type of fault condition that exists) CPU 156 creates a control cell that is addressed to CPU 150, CPU 150 received the control cell and acts on the directive it contains, and CPU 150 controls the buffer of framer 115 directly. The following discussion explains how those decisions of block 304 are arrived at.--;

Please substitute the following for the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1.—

The above discloses the principles of this invention for an arrangement like the one disclosed in the related application that was initially identified. It should be

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understood, however, that this invention is much broader, and is not limited to the disclosed embodiment. Illustratively, it can be applied to prior art arrangements for protecting service from fiber failures. Moreover, the control embodied in FIG. 7 can be installed the controller module (e.g., with elements 256', 356', and 456'), as well as in the IO modules, etc. Also, it should be understood that while the term "register" is used, and sometimes that designates a distinct hardware element, in the context of this invention the term includes any location in memory where data may be stored.